overseas offices of the Department is also being reviewed from time to time to make them more cost effective in their functions. It is not correct to say that publicity in Europe is inadequate. As regards Latin America this is not a major market for us on account of the long distance. We do not have any office in Latin America. Limited publicity is carried out through the Department's offices in New York and Los Angeles.

The steps taken by the Government in the recent past to attract more tourists from these countries include introduction of direct consumer advertising in the overseas media, use of electronic media like Radio, Television, Video Casettes, etc. in publicity campaigns, organising promotional seminars and 'India Evenings' at high decision making levels, projecting India as an all weather holiday destination, promoting special interest tourism like conferences and conventions, adventure tourism, beach tourism etc., launching of promotional schemes like 'Affordable India' and 'India on the House' and allowing of charter flights to India.

Cases of cheating, etc. at ISBT, Delhi

*97. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alarming increase in the number of cases of cheating, drugging of passengers and depriving them of their belongings at the Inter-State Bus Terminal in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the thieves and touts are working in collusion with police and other authorities;

(c) what is the number of such anti-social elements arrested so far during 1986-87 and what action has been taken against them; and

(d) what measures Government propose to take for the safety of passengers and their belongings?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Crime Statistics for this area during the last 3 years do not indicate an 'alarming increase' in such cases.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) 21 persons have been arrested in 12 cases during the period 1.1.86 to 15-2-87. Challans against 10 have been filed in the court.

(d) Round-the-clock watch is maintained at the ISBT for suspicious looking persons. Announcement are made on the loudspeakers requesting the people to be beware of cheats. Police patrolling has been intensified in the area.

Wet wood scandal at the Nigambodh Ghat

*98. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a scandal at the Delhi's main cremation ground Nigambodh Ghat where wet wood for funeral pyres containing moisture much above the permissible level is sold; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The report has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) A Show Cause Notice for rescinding of contract apart from other steps by the Corporation was given to the defaulting Contractor who has obtained a Stay Order from the Court restraining the Department from rescinding the contract. The Corpora-